

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 FEA-01 ACDA-10 IO-13 EB-07 NRC-07 OES-06

ERDA-07 (ISO) W

----- 094496

R 230805Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1780

INFO USERDA WASHDC

USERDA GERMANTOWN MD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS TOKYO 12685

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, JA, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT ON KEIDANREN VISIT TO USSR; REFERENCE TO
NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPRATION

1. ALL JAPANESE NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN CARRYING STORIES ON VISIT BY
DOKO ET AL OF KEIDANREN TO MOSCOW AND HAVE GONE TO VARIOUS DEGREES
OF DETAIL IN MAKING FACTUAL ON SPECULATIVE REPORTS. ON AUGUST 18,
DOKO HELD PRESS CONFERENCE TO EXPLAIN VISIT. NONE OF NEWSPAPERS TO
OUR KNOWLEDGE, IN PUBLISHING SECOND-ROUND STORIES BASED ON PRESS
CONFERENCE, MADE BY ANY REFERENCE TO PROPOSED "PRIVATE" NUCLEAR
AGREEMENT, WITH ONE EXCEPTION.

2. DENKI SHIMBUN, ELECTRIC UTILITY TRADE PAPER, STATED THAT SOVIET
SIDE HAD STRESSED FOLLOWING POINTS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH KEIDANREN
TEAM:

A. JAPAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION SHOULD BE EXPANDED FROM A
LONG-RANGE POINT OF VIEW.

B. DEVELOPMENT OF THE JAPAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS

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IS A MATTER CONCERNING THE TWO COUNTRIES ONLY, AND THERE

IS NO NEED TO BE ANXIOUS ABOUT A THIRD COUNTRY'S OPINION.

C. POSITIVE JAPAN-SOVIET COOPERATION IN THE ENERGY FIELD,
SUCH AS JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, IS DESIRED.

3. KANESHIGE HASEGAWA, VICE PRESIDENT OF KEIDANREN, IS
QUOTED AS SAYING, QTE I WONDER WHY THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH
IS CAPABLE EVEN OF DEVELOPING OUTER SPACE AND BUILDING

NUCLEAR SUBMARINES, IS SEEKING HELP FROM SUCH A SMALL
COUNTRY AS JAPAN. THEY SAY THAT THEY ARE DEVELOPING SIBERIA
FOR THE GOOD OF JAPAN, BUT THERE IS SOMETHING UNCONVINCING
IN SUCH A WAY OF SAYING. I KEENLY FELT THAT JAPAN MUST BE
CAUTIOUS WHEN DEALING WITH ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH THE
SOVIET UNION. UNQUOTE.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO12685
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760321-1178
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760827/aaaaaxpo.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: harterdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <18 JAN 2005 by harterdg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORT ON KEIDANREN VISIT TO USSR; REFERENCE TO NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, JA, UR, KEIDANREN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006